



Raymond "Ray" Popec

May 30, 1953 - September 14, 2023

Raymond "Ray" Popec, 70, passed away surrounded by his family that dearly loved him on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at his home in Preston, Mississippi. Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Sunday, September 17 at Butler Pentecostal Church in Shuqualak, Mississippi, with Reverend Ronnie Cartwright and Reverend Bryan Madison officiating. Visitation will be the day of the service at the church from 1 p.m. until service time. Interment will immediately follow the service in Butler Cemetery in Shuqualak with Reverend William Shephard officiating.

Ray was born in Chicago, Illinois, to Adam and Charlotte Aldridge Popec on May 30, 1953. He was a member of Butler Pentecostal Church. In the various churches that he attended in the different places he and Kay called home, Ray served in any area of the church ministry where he was needed. He was especially called to minister to the youth and was utilized as a Sunday school teacher. Ray had many interesting jobs throughout his career. For example, one of his jobs early in his working career was to read water meters for the City of Chicago. While doing this, he was able to see some magnificent homes. He later worked as a foreman at Soldier Field where he met and showed Walter Payton where the locker room was located. Ray was an avid Cubs fan, a love he inherited from his mother. In 2019, his sons, Quentin and Scott, were able to surprise him by taking him to a game between his beloved Cubs and the Astros. He enjoyed Chicago politics and believed everyone

should vote in an election. Ray loved all Chicago-style food; such as Chicago-style hotdogs, kluski, and roast beef sandwiches to name a few. He loved to cook for his family and they especially loved his homemade spaghetti sauce. Another hobby was looking for antique furniture and old records at antique shops or flea markets. He had a massive collection of old records and was always on the lookout for more. Ray loved old classic cars and he enjoyed plants, which he scattered around his lawn and house. He was so much fun to be around; always laughing, ready to pull a prank, or watch one unfold! Most of all, Ray ministered to others by his wholehearted hugs that he loved to give to anyone from those he met at Wal-Mart to his church family.

Ray is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Kay Popec; his daughter, Kelly Eaves and husband, Todd, all of Preston, Mississippi; and his son, Scott Popec of Lumberton, Texas. One of his greatest joys was being “Paw Paw Ray” to his six grandchildren whom he dearly loved: Adam Popec, Morgan Popec, Jasmine Popec, Danielle Robinson, Emma Kaye Eaves, and Parker Jo Eaves; and his great-granddaughter, Macie Taylor Robinson. He is also survived by his five siblings: Larry (Laurie) Popec; Kevin Popec; Kathy (Joseph) Pecararo; Jerry Popec; and Gary (Frances) Popec. He was also “Ray Ray” to his precious great-nephews Rhett, Knox, and Tallen, with whom he enjoyed spending time; as well as many loving nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends. Ray was preceded in death by his son, Quentin Popec; his parents; and his brother, Robert “Bob” Popec.

Serving as pallbearers are Todd Eaves, Parker Jo Eaves, Taylor Robinson, Cody Boyd, Mason Boyd, Jodie Blumenfeld, Josh Massey, Jason McArthur, Stephen Goodin, and Able Hernandez. Memorials in honor of Ray may be given to Butler Pentecostal Church Building Fund, 3125 Butler Road, Shuqualak, MS 39361.

Services are under the direction of Nowell-Massey Funeral Home, 724 North

Columbus Avenue, Louisville, MS. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family by signing the guest register at www.nowellmasseyfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Butler Pentecostal Church
3125 Butler Rd
Shuqualak, MS 39361

Service

SEP 17. 3:00 PM (CT)

Butler Pentecostal Church
3125 Butler Rd
Shuqualak, MS 39361

Interment

SEP 17 (CT)

Butler Cemetery
Noxubee County, MS

Tribute Wall

MH

“ Sincere sympathy,
Mozell Hull

Mozell Hull - September 17, 2023 at 08:38 PM

BH

“ I'm so sorry for your lost I wish I could of visited with the both of you but at my age it's very hard. Ray was so helpful with his receipt for perogges.I know he is in a better place now and pain free but he is missed by man Love Aunt Betty

Betty Howell - September 16, 2023 at 10:45 PM

JF

Loved Ray He was always so full of life ,always fun to be around ,he loved people I wished I could be there with y'all today ,Heaven is going to be even sweeter with Ray there I was thinking this morning when Bro.Flake mom see him what big smile will be on there face and I could almost hear my Kim say uncle Ray love y'all so much

Janice foster - September 17, 2023 at 10:34 AM

DK

“ Kay I am so sorry for your loss! Praying for your family.🙏

Debra Kitchens-Thrasher - September 16, 2023 at 07:20 PM



“ White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.



September 16, 2023 at 10:45 AM

CH

“ Cathy Hall lit a candle in memory of Raymond "Ray" Popec



Cathy Hall - September 16, 2023 at 10:14 AM

CH

KK so sorry for your loss ,hugs to you from me ,Codi and CJ .I love you my friend and my prayers and thoughts are always with Love Cathy ,codi and CJ

Cathy Hall - September 16, 2023 at 10:23 AM

SL

“ We have been so blessed to have Ray and Kay as forever friends. We survived all the crazy growing up years together. Ray was always there strong and steady. He made a life great. One of my treasured memories is from when he walked me down the aisle to marry Pat. Best day. He was the best friend ever. Love you Ray. Enjoy Heaven! Say hi to the family!



Sue Lopardo - September 16, 2023 at 01:14 AM



“ Bountiful European Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.



September 16, 2023 at 01:06 AM

AC

“ Uncle Ray was a wonderful man. Tonight me and my kids who never got to meet him except over video, enjoyed ourselves some biscuits and gravy! Aunt Kay makes the best, when when you think biscuits and gravy its always about Kay & Ray ❤️



ashleigh cloutier - September 15, 2023 at 06:19 PM



“ Sharing another picture for my mom and Uncle Gary.



WalterJanice DuGuay - September 15, 2023 at 05:14 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.



September 15, 2023 at 05:07 PM



“ *White Standing Wreath was purchased for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.*



September 15, 2023 at 04:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Raymond "Ray" Popec.

September 15, 2023 at 04:44 PM



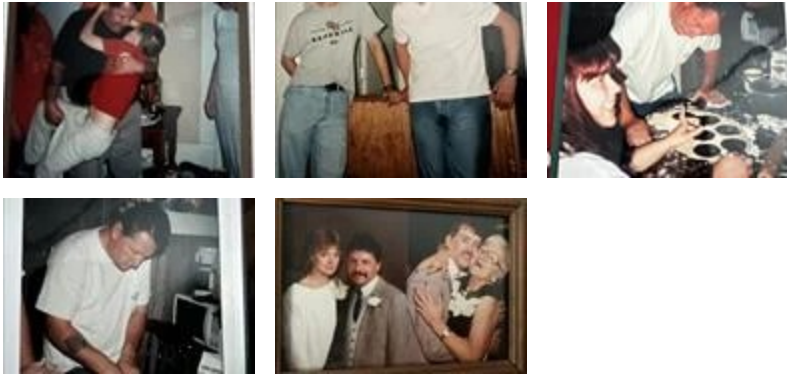
“ *Pulaski Park Boys purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.*



Pulaski Park Boys - September 15, 2023 at 04:33 PM



“ *There are too many memories to share about Uncle Ray aka my Uncle Gonz. I remember visiting your house in Chicago on our way to move to Maine. (I've got pictures somewhere). You came to Maine for my HS graduation and you visited us when we lived in TN. You were so amazing and so loved. Thank you for being you. Until we meet again.
Your niece Janice*



WalterJanice DuGuay - September 15, 2023 at 04:32 PM

DS

“ *Uncle Ray was truly one of a kind. He was the funniest and happy go lucky person I have ever had the honor to meet. Sole of my fondest childhood's memories are time spent with both Ray and Kaye. I will miss you terribly but I am glad you no longer are in pain. Until we meet again! Love, Donny Jr.*

Don W Smith - September 15, 2023 at 02:46 PM

MR

So sorry for the loss of this man of God. May the Lord bless and comfort Sis Kay, Sis Kelly and Bro Scott and all who love him. He was a happy Christian!

mary reed - September 15, 2023 at 04:01 PM

CJ

“ Ray was a very sweet person, always loved running into him and talking with him!! Linda, I'm so sorry , for your loss and the rest of the family! I will have all of you in my thoughts and prayers!

cindy Johns - September 15, 2023 at 02:42 PM

KM

“ What a kind soul and I never saw him he didn't have a smile or kind words to say. I will miss seeing him in Walmart. Rest in peace sweet friend and prayers for your family.



kim mcminn - September 15, 2023 at 01:58 PM

RB

“ Mr Ray was a wonderful person .He done his best to help anyone he could.And his wife was a wonderful person to. You will be missed very much as a friend.Rosie and T Bone Bradford.He passed away in March.



Rosie Bradford - September 15, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Raymond "Ray" Popec.



September 15, 2023 at 11:16 AM

DH

“ *Daniel R Holdiness lit a candle in memory of
Raymond "Ray" Popec*



Daniel R Holdiness - September 14, 2023 at 11:13 AM